

Architecture and Construction Technology Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday October 2, 2109

4:00 – 5:30 PM

Lee Campus AA 165

In attendance: Carlos Marcet, Adjunct Faculty, Studio T; Amy Wicks, Kimley-Horn; Tyler F Patak, Parker/Mudgett/Smith Architects; Bill Prysi, Waldrop Engineering; Alexander Irigoyen, Associate A.I.A; Lawrin T. Ellis, PE, TLC; Shawn Anderson, Select Structural; Dr. Tanya Kunberger, FGCU; Dr. Debbie Psihountas, Dean; Jennifer Baker, Associate Dean; Albert Nault, Coordinator; Dr. Mary Conwell, Chair; Matthew Hoffman, Professor; Elizabeth Schott, Professor

Welcome and Introductions: Dr. Psihountas welcomed all in attendance and went around the room to introduce ourselves.

Update of Programs: Dr. Psihountas shared Fall 2018 enrollment for both the AS in Civil Engineering Technology (35) and the AS in Architecture and Construction Technology (80). Members asked why the enrollment went down? Still trying to determine. Unemployment is low which may have an impact. How many students graduated from program – AS Civil 3; AS Architecture 4. Class sizes are robust which indicates AA students are taking the courses. Course work may provide easier transition to university programs. The SoBT is preparing to launch a recruitment plan that includes visiting academy high schools to inform the students of the programs we have within SoBT.

Field Trips: Professor Joe Glowacki took his class to a construction site off of Alico Road this term. Dr. Psihountas participated in the trip and was impressed with the student's interaction. According to Carlos Marcet students love going on field trips.

Promotion/Marketing: SoBT will have an "Ask SoBT" table set up outside the student union two times a week to answer questions students have about the programs offered within the school.

Dr. Psihountas will have a mentorship event in January. More information will be forth coming.

SoBT Job Fair is scheduled for November 7th from 4-6 in K bldg. Members should have received invitation and we would encourage you're participation. Great way to meet the students and present any opportunities (jobs or internships) to them.

Position Update: Dr. Psihountas will be recruiting for a full-time faculty member for these programs this year. The internal job posting is currently available. Soon we will move to the external job posting and will be forming a search committee to evaluate and interview candidates.

Competition Opportunity: Dr. Psihountas received an email regarding a Design Team competition for a site location in Tallahassee. She asked if this would be a valuable student opportunity. Carlos Marcet indicated that it may not be worth it for our students, that this activity requires a higher level of expertise. The members asked Dr. Psihountas to forward the competition to them for review.

Open Discussion, Q&A, Close:

Carlos Marcet shared that he starts each term with asking his students a set of questions to answer. They are: Where are they? Where have you been? Where do you want to go? Based on the answers he

has received, he feels the school needs to do a better job to guide the students – Clarify a career path and clarify an education path. Many students have job aspirations that are not in line with the curriculum of the program.

Elizabeth Schott gave an overview of several activities she has students perform in a way to educate and expose them on the different jobs within the engineering field.

Lawrin Ellis indicated the current curriculum is not meeting his industry needs – Landscape Architecture. He suggested revising the course work to include this industry in the program.

It was suggested that Dr. Psihountas work with the “big players” in the industry to see if they would sponsor the program. It was also suggested that she develop a short term and long term plan for the program.

Carlos Marcet and Tyler Patak suggested that the curriculum be looked at and possibly updated to meet the needs of the industry today. For example – Blueprint reading is outdated. Include Revit II, site plans, BLM and Civil 3d into the curriculum. Both asked for the current curriculum as well as an state requirements to help lead in further discussions regarding curriculum.

It was determined that a separate meeting be held with Amy, Lawrin, and other interested advisory board members to specifically identify new courses to add to the current curriculum to better position students for jobs in the industry, such as a design space course and/or landscape design course. Dr. Psihountas will work with Dr. Conwell to set up a time in

Next meeting will be held in Spring 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm